

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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41

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 EB-07 SSO-00 PRS-01 CPR-01 /031 W

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O 161500Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY CONAKRY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0953

C O N F I D E N T I A L CONAKRY 1117

STADIS////////////////////////////////

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EAID, GV US

SUBJECT: LETTER FROM PRESIDENT FORD TO PRESIDENT TOURE

REF: A) STATE 165912; B) 165586

1. HAVE NOT YET DELIVERED PRESIDENT'S LETTER TO TOURE AND
WILL NOT DO SO PENDING FURTHER INSTRUCTIONS.

2. STRONGLY RECOMMEND REWORDING PARAS 2 AND 3 OF TEXT TRANSMITTED
REFTEL B.

3. RE PARA 2, WE SHOULD TRY TO AVOID IMPRESSION THAT US WILL CONTINU
E

INDEFINITELY THROUGH PL480 TITLE I TO SUBSIDIZE GOG'S IDEOLOGICAL
AND DYSFUNCTIONAL AGRICULTURAL POLICIES. "PRESENT FOOD SHORTAGES"
HAVE PERSISTED FOR 15 YEARS AND HAVE BEEN COVERED TO IMPORTANT
EXTENT SINCE 1962 BY USG. THESE SHORTAGES WILL NO DOUBT CONTINUE
UNTIL GOG PERMITS SOME PLAY OF MARKET FORCES IN ITS RIGID SOCIALIST
ECONOMY. US WILL BE PROVIDING FY 1976 TITLE I HELP, BUT IT IS TIME
TO BEGIN SIGNALING THAT THIS ARRANGEMENT DOES NOT SOLVE GUINEA'S
PROBLEMS, IS NOT THE CATEGORY OF AID WE PREFER TO PROVIDE, AND
CANNOT GO ON INDEFINITELY.

4. SUGGEST PARA 2 BE REDRAFTED ALONG FOLLOWING LINES: QUOTE
WE ARE MINDFUL OF THE PERSISTENT FOOD SHORTAGES YOU HAVE
EXPERIENCED AND ARE PLEASED THAT WE HAVE BEEN ABLE TO ASSIST
YOU. WE WILL CAREFULLY EXAMINE YOUR REQUESTS FOR ASSISTANCE UNDER
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THE 1976 PUBLIC LAW 480 TITLE I PROGRAM AND WILL TRY TO BE AS

RESPONSIVE AS WE CAN, RECOGNIZING, AS YOU DO ALSO, THAT THE REAL SOLUTION IS THE EXPANSION OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION IN GUINEA WHICH WILL MAKE SUCH TEMPORARY FOREIGN ASSISTANCE NO LONGER NECESSARY. UNQUOTE.

5. PARA 3 AS TRANSMITTED REFTEL B ACTUALLY ENCOURAGES MORE GOG MINISTERIAL MISSIONS TO WASHINGTON DESIGNED TO STIMULATE LARGEST POSSIBLE PL480 PROGRAMS THROUGH LOBBYING WITH VARIOUS USG AGENCIES INVOLVED. THIS NOW CHRONIC PRACTICE IS NOT IN US INTEREST. I URGE REWORDING PARA 3 ALONG FOLLOWING LINES QUOTE THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT WAS HONORED TO RECEIVE MINISTER ALIOUNE DRAME AND HIS DELEGATION IN APRIL, AND WE APPRECIATE THE KIND WORDS WITH WHICH HE RECENTLY DESCRIBED OUR FRIENDLY BILATERAL RELATIONS. I AM HOPEFUL THAT WE WILL BE ABLE TO COMPLETE NEGOTIATION OF A POSSIBLE 1976 TITLE I PROGRAM EARLIER IN THE YEAR, THROUGH NORMAL DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN THE US EMBASSY IN CONAKRY AND YOUR GOVERNMENT. THIS WILL ENABLE BOTH OUR GOVERNMENTS TO AVOID THE EXPENSE AND LOSS OF TIME INVOLVED IN SPECIAL HIGH LEVEL MISSION TO WASHINGTON UNQUOTE.

6. APPRECIATE PARA 4 OF TEXT WHICH WILL REINFORCE MY POSITION HERE. HARROP

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